

Docket No.: 77119-026 (5431P009)



PATENT

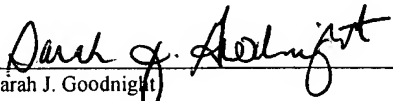
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Burns P. Phillips et al.  
Appl. No. : 10/613,646  
Filed : July 2, 2003  
Title : SURGICAL RETRACTOR CLAMP  
CONNECTABLE TO AN ARM OF  
THE RETRACTOR

Certificate of Mailing

I, hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any documents referred to as attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 20, 2006.

Grp./A.U. : 3733  
Examiner: : Annette R. Reimers  
Customer No. : 1923  
Confirmation No. : 4622

  
Sarah J. Goodnight

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ No additional claim fees are required.

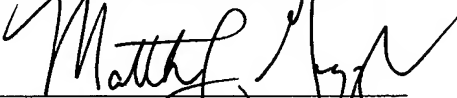
The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	FEE
Total Claims	15	20	0	\$50.00 =	\$0.00
Independent Claims	3	3	0	\$200.00 =	\$0.00
Multiple dependent claims newly presented					\$0.00
Fee for extension of time					\$0.00
Total of Above Calculations					\$0.00

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-0206, including any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for presentation of extra claims and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Matthew J. Gryzlo, Reg. No. 43,648

Please recognize our Customer No. 1923 as our correspondence address.

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CHI99 4763616-1.077119.0026

Attorney Docket No. 77119-026

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Burtis Phillips and Larry Griffith  
Application No.: 10/613,646  
Confirmation No.: 4622  
Filed On: July 2, 2003

Examiner: Reimers, Annette R.

Art Unit: 3733

For: SURGICAL RETRACTOR CLAMP  
CONNECTABLE TO AN ARM OF THE  
RETRACTOR

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 21, 2006**

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action mailed September 21, 2006, rejecting all pending claims. In the Office Action the Examiner set a shortened statutory period, expiring on December 21, 2006. This Response is being submitted within the shortened statutory time period. Accordingly, no additional fee is required.

Applicants extend their thanks to the Examiner for participating in the telephonic interview, held December 18, 2006.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.

Reconsideration of the referenced application, including all pending claims, is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks set forth below.